



MassDEPNEWS

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

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Massachusetts Environmental Officials Mark Earth Day 2017 by Recognizing Communities Adopting Electric Vehicles

BOSTON – Massachusetts environmental officials yesterday recognized 13 municipal entities south of Boston for their adoption and use of electric vehicles (EVs) as part of their municipal fleets and installation of EV charging stations in their communities.

Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Matthew Beaton and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Commissioner Martin Suuberg were joined by State Representatives Keiko Orrall (R-Lakeville), Carole Fiola (D-Fall River) and Steven Howitt (R-Seekonk) to honor the local officials during an Earth Fest 2017 ceremony held at MassDEP's Southeast Regional Office in Lakeville.

The communities recognized for their municipal use of EVs and charging stations are: Barnstable; Brockton; Cohasset; Dartmouth; Fall River; Marion; Middleborough; the Middleborough Gas & Electric Company; New Bedford; Norton; Rochester; Westport; and Weymouth.

“The Baker-Polito Administration is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality for all of our citizens,” **Secretary Beaton said.** “The transportation sector is now responsible for 41 percent of emissions across the Commonwealth. So powering vehicles with electricity, rather than petroleum, is a key piece of our efforts to reduce these impacts.”

“MassDEP salutes our municipal partners, who have embraced the idea of adopting electric vehicles and cutting air pollutants in their communities,” **Commissioner Suuberg said.** “Through our Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program, 76 communities have acquired 261 EVs and installed 91 charging stations, and we’re just getting started.”

The Earth Fest 2017 celebration also involved EV test drives, where other town officials not yet involved in an EV program and the general public were allowed a brief test drive of EVs, such as the Chevrolet Bolt, a Chevy Volt hybrid, a Chrysler Pacifica, a BMW i3 and a Nissan Leaf. The EVs were supplied by two local dealerships – the Colonial Municipal Group; and Quirk Chevrolet. Also, electric bikes were available to test drive thanks to Fifield E-Bikes of Hingham.



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Information booths containing more details on EVs, charging stations and other sustainable programs were staffed by the Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program (MassEVIP), the EEA MOR-EV program, the MassRIDES program, and EV charging station vendor Voltrek.

For more information on EVs and the MassEVIP program, turn
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/air/grants/massevip.html>

MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.



The Town of Barnstable was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Barnstable Energy Coordinator Richard Elrick, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.

(more)



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The City of Brockton was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Brockton Contract Administrator Pat Sullivan, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin



The Town of Dartmouth was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Dartmouth Energy Manager Shawn Luz, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.



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The City of Fall River was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Fall River officials Jerry Ouillette and Paul Ferland, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.



The Town of Marion was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Marion Recreation Director Jody Dickerson, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.



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The Town of Middleborough was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Among those shown at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Assistant Town Manager Evan Melillo (holding certificate), State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg and a number of other town officials.



The City of New Bedford was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, New Bedford Energy Manager Tyler Reis, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.



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The Town of Norton was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Norton Health Agent Christian Zahner, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.



The Town of Rochester was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Rochester official Charles Shea, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.



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The Town of Westport was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Westport Energy Committee member Carroll Brownlee, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.



The City of Weymouth was honored yesterday for adopting electric vehicles in the town fleet. Shown (l-r) at a MassDEP Earth Fest celebration are: State Rep. Keiko Orrall of Lakeville, EEA Secretary Matthew Beaton, Weymouth City Engineer Braydon Marot, State Rep. Carole Fiola of Fall River, State Rep. Steven Howitt of Seekonk, and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.

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